

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please insert after the title of the application the following heading, paragraph, heading and sub-heading in this order:**

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATION**

This application claims priority from French Patent Application No. 0210714 filed on August 29, 2002, in the French Patent Office (Institut national de La Propriete Industrielle), the disclosures of which is incorporated herein in their entirety by reference.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**1. Field of the Invention**

**Please insert the following subheading before line 7 of page 2:**

**2. Description of the Related Art**

**Please insert the following heading before line 13 of page 3:**

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

**Please insert the following heading and paragraph before line 15 of page 6:**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The sole figure of the present application illustrates a relationship between a network management system and associated network plants according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS**